

CLASSIFICATION	SECRET	REPORT
COUNTRY	East Germany	
TOPIC	Fall Exercise of the 6th Gds Mecs Div	
EVALUATION		25X1
DATE OF CONTENT		25X1
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED 19 October 1955
REFERENCES		
PAGES	3	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 25X1
REMARKS	This is UNEVALUATED Information	

1. Railroad records indicated that the following shipments were dispatched from Bernau on 30 September 1955: 25X1
  - 1 shipment to Fuerstenberg/Havel; 1 shipment of 2 converted boxcars, 1 boxcar and 14 flatcars, to Lychen; and 25X1
  - 1 shipment of 2 converted boxcars, 1 boxcar and 15 flatcars, to Fuerstenberg/Havel.
2. a shipment of 2 converted boxcars, 1 boxcar and 14 flatcars was dispatched from Bernau to Fuerstenberg/Havel on 1 October. 1 25X1
3. Beginning at noon on 30 September, 6 T-34/85 tanks and 11 trucks were entrained at the Eberswalde railroad station. Additional tanks and motor vehicles were loaded after 2000. At 1000 on 30 September, armored personnel carriers and trucks were loaded in Bad Freienwalde. Imprints of tank tracks were observed near the railroad station. At 1300, a motorized column was seen passing through Dannenberg-Hohenfinow-Eberswalde. The column, which came from the direction of Bad Freienwalde and proceeded to Templin, consisted of 7 armored personnel carriers, 4 x 57-mm and 4 x 85-mm AT guns, 4 x 120-mm mortars, 4 x 20-mm AA guns, 24 trucks and 5 field kitchens, 25X1
  - After 0800 on 1 October, additional motorized columns totaling 31 armored personnel carriers, 12 x 57-mm AT guns, 4 x 85-mm AT guns, 4 x 37-mm AA guns, 4 x 120-mm mortars, 34 trucks, 1 field kitchen and soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets proceeded in the same direction. After 1750 on 5 October, several motorized columns were observed in Eberswalde. They came from the direction of Angermuende and Finow and proceeded toward the barracks installations in Eberswalde. The columns included a total of approximately 170 trucks, 30 armored personnel carriers, 10 x 20-mm AA guns, 4 x 85-mm and 8 x 57-mm AT guns, 8 x 120-mm mortars and 2 field kitchens, 25X1
  - During the night of 5/6 October, tanks were presumably unloaded at the Eberswalde railroad station. Heavy imprints of tank tracks were observed near the railroad station. 2 25X1

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4. At 1330 on 1 October, a Soviet troop train with 7 T-34 tanks and 14 trucks came from the direction of Berlin and went toward Strausberg.

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Between 2100 on 4 October and 0600 on 5 October, heavy artillery, rifle and machine gun fire was heard from the Uederssee area west of Finowfurth. On 4 October, a large number of tanks allegedly assembled near Joachimsthal north of Eberswalde; the Eichhorst-Joachimsthal area was allegedly cordoned off. Between 2200 and 2300, heavy noise of tanks was heard from the direction of Marienwerder west of Finowfurth toward Eberswalde. The Eberswalde tank units apparently returned from the maneuver. At 1630 on 5 October, no activities were observed in the Artillerie Kaserne (4341) in Eberswalde.

5. At 1100 on 29 September, 7 JS-1 or JS-2 tanks, 5 six-wheel armored personnel carriers, 2 trucks, 1 SP gun without barrel, 1 field kitchen, 1 sidecar motorcycle and, in 3 boxcars, approximately 180 soldiers were entrained at the Eberswalde railroad station. At 0900 on 4 October, a column of 1 DUKV-353 amphibious vehicle, 13 trucks including 5 with pontoons and some 100 soldiers who wore black-bordered black epaulets was seen in Finow. The column came from the direction of Eberswalde and proceeded toward Finowfurth. Between 2100 on 4 October and 0600 on 5 October, heavy fire of artillery, rifles and machine guns was heard from the Uederssee area west of Finowfurth. After 1700 on 5 October, a total of approximately 25 trucks towing 6 x 120-mm mortars and carrying additional mortars came from the direction of Finowfurth and proceeded toward Eberswalde.

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The column was followed by a total of 11 sidecar motorcycles, 7 six-wheel armored personnel carriers, 9 x 122-mm field howitzers and some 27 trucks. The Eberswalde units apparently returned from the fall maneuver.

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6. At 1900 on 5 October, the following column entered the Panzer Kaserne (4002) in Bad Freienwalde from the direction of Eberswalde: 26 sidecar motorcycles, 6 x 37-mm AT guns, 6 x 57-mm and 4 x 85-mm AT guns, 5 x 120-mm mortars, 3 tank trucks, 4 field kitchens, some 100 trucks and 20 three-axle armored personnel carriers with soldiers. Motor vehicle were seen. At 2000 on the same day, 10 trucks with billeting equipment, 3 ambulances and 2 tank trucks entered the installation from the direction of Hohenfinow. During the night of 5/6 October, tanks were unloaded in Bad Freienwalde. At 0800 on 6 October, 20 to 25 tanks and SP guns were stored in the Panzer Kaserne in Bad Freienwalde. On 8 October, the installation was occupied by approximately 1,300 soldiers.

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7. At 1510 on 29 September, a shipment with 14 tanks, apparently T-54s, 12 trucks and 3 boxcars with soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets passed through the Templin railroad station. The train which came from the direction of Eberswalde and proceeded toward Fuerstenberg was allegedly unloaded in Lycheu. In addition to this train, 3 more shipments were allegedly unloaded in Lycheu and forwarded toward Camp Kannenburg.

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8. [ ] 3 shipments went from Berlin-Kaulsdorf to Lychen on 1 October.

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1. [ ] Comment. According to paragraph 7 of the present report, at least one of the 3 to 4 trains carried tank units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div from Bernau. With Bernau as dispatching station, it appears possible that also elements of the 71st Light Arty Brig transferred to the area north of the Templin training grounds in order to participate in the exercise of the 6th Gds Mecz Div. See [ ] Comment 2.

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2. [ ] Comment. The observations confirm previous information on the departure of the bulk of the units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div from the Eberswalde and Bad Freienwalde posts.

[ ] The present information tends to indicate that, between 1 and 5 October, the division conducted exercises which started in the northern portion of the Templin training grounds and developed toward southeast. It is possible that, within the framework of this exercise, tank fights took place in the area west of Joachimsthal and apparently ended in the area west of Eberswalde (Finowfurth-Marienwerder). The final phase of the exercise presumably included the crossing of the Finow Canal. This assumption is supported by the observation of engineer units, possibly of the 3d Engr Regt of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army, which were seen marching from the direction of Eberswalde toward Finowfurth on 4 October. After 6 October, all units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div can be assumed stationed in their winter quarters.

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3. [ ] Comment. These were quite definitely units of the 68th Gds Tank Regt of the 6th Gds Mecz Div, which transferred to the area north of the Templin training grounds in order to participate in the exercise of the division.

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